

Parish of St Margaret Clitherow

30th Sunday of the Year (C)

27th October 2013



PASTORAL AREA TEAM

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Deacons: Robert Hewertson & Anthony Arrowsmith

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Psalter Readings Week 2
Sunday - 30th Sunday of Ordinary Time (C)
Weekdays - Year 1, Week 30

Today 30th Sunday of Ordinary Time (C)
Monday Feast of Saints Simon & Jude, Apostles
Friday All Saints (Holiday of Obligation)
Saturday All Souls
Sunday 31st Sunday of Ordinary Time (C)
(LAMP Sunday)



GOSPEL REFLECTION

In today's Gospel Reading, we hear the story of the prayer of the Pharisee and the tax collector. They were two very different people who had very different standings in society. The Pharisee, for example, seemed to be completely unaware of his own sinfulness. In fact, he didn't think he had any sins at all. He felt he wasn't a sinner like the rest of society. He was different. Therefore, instead of examining his own conscience and confessing his own sins, he examined the conscience of others and confessed their sins – greed, injustice, adultery, etc. Yes, he did have sins - the main one being the sin of pride. The tax collector might well have confessed the same sins as the Pharisee, but he didn't. He concentrated on himself, and left the sins of others between themselves and God. With great honesty and humility, he laid bare his heart before God and acknowledged his sinfulness. He made no attempt to hide anything. He stood before God and, in all humility, said, "Lord, be merciful to me, a sinner." As a result, as Jesus says, he went home at rights with God.



We can learn from both of them. Is there a bit of the Pharisee lurking in all of us? Like him, we may be very conscious of the sins of others, but we may be blind to our own. It's easy to get into the habit of noticing the sins and faults of others. People do it all the time. But this can be dangerous because it stops us from looking at our own lives and our need to be reconciled with God. We can learn from the tax collector because he shows us how to confess our sins. God calls us to humility. Humility is about knowing that we are nothing without God. Instead of preparing a list of sins, as many of us would do when we go to the Sacrament of Confession, the tax collector simply said, "Lord, I am a sinner". In other words, "Lord, I need your help. I need your love and forgiveness." God is not necessarily bothered about hearing a list of our sins. He would rather we come before him with open hearts and open minds. The problem with the Pharisee was that his heart was closed to the goodness and needs of others. His mind was closed to hearing new ideas.



As we celebrate God's love and forgiveness this weekend, let us pray that God may heal us of the Pharisee in each of us, so our hearts and minds may be open to the needs of others, especially the tax collectors – that is, those who so often feel rejected – in our lives today.

Psalms Response This poor man called; the Lord heard him.

Gospel Acclamation Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children.

The Feast of All Saints is on Thursday evening & Friday this week

Serving the church communities of

St. Ambrose Barlow Astley

St. Gabriel's Higher Folds

Holy Family Boothstown

St. Richard's Atherton

Sacred Heart Hindsford

Archdiocesan Mission Statement



Taking to heart the last words of the Lord Jesus, we will go into the world to proclaim the Good News to the whole of creation.

NOVEMBER

Month of the Holy Souls



Solemnity of All Saints

Masses in the Parish

Thursday 31st October

7.00 pm Holy Family, Boothstown

Friday 1st November

10.00 am St Gabriel's, Higher Folds

12.00 noon St Richard's, Atherton

7.00 pm St Ambrose Barlow, Astley

All Souls

Saturday 2nd November

10.00 am Holy Family, Boothstown

Masses of Remembrance

Since All Souls falls on a Saturday this year, there will be two Masses to remember all those who have died, especially loved ones who have died during the last 12 months, as follows:

Monday 4th November

7.00 pm St Richard's, Atherton

Wednesday 6th November

7.00 pm Holy Family, Boothstown



Remembrance Service at St Mary's

St. Mary's Catholic High School History Department would like to invite you to take part in a short Remembrance Service on Friday 8th November at 10.30 am. The service, involving students, Cadets and members of the Royal British Legion, will take place in the Lower School Hall. Following this, we will move outside to lay a wreath at St. Mary's Remembrance Memorial and observe 2 minutes silence. On your arrival, please sign in at the main reception and ask to be directed to the Conference Room in the Excellence Centre. **Please RSVP by email to: r.barrett@smchs.org.uk**

November Pious Lists

At Holy Family and St Gabriel's, you will find the traditional Pious Lists at the back of church. Please take one if you want, write the names of those you want to remember on the list, and then return it to church. We will remember all those on the Pious Lists during Mass in November. There's no obligation to place an offering in with your list, but if you want to, the money will go to the Priests Training Fund.



PARISH NEWS

This Week

Connor Donaldson

As you may have heard, a Year 7 pupil from St Mary's, Connor Donaldson, tragically died last weekend. Please pray for Connor, for his mum, his brothers and sisters, and for all his family and friends. Thank you.

Toiletries

There is a basket in the porch at St Ambrose Barlow Church. Christine B is collecting toiletries to make up gift packs to raise funds for Manchester CP Society. If you could add an item or two, she would be very grateful.

St Richard's 500 Club October Winners

£100	360	G F Hill
£50	84	I O'Donnell
£25	416	J Murphy
£15	122	J Ryder
£15	301	L Sandelands

Thank you for your continued support

Thanks

The Ladies Group Bingo / Bring & Buy Charity Night raised £286.50 for Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research. Grateful thanks to all who supported it.

Forty Hours Exposition

Thank you so much to everyone who called in during the Forty Hours Exposition at Holy Family last week. During the three days, the church was never empty - almost always there were between three and five people in church, and sometimes quite a lot more. It was a blessed time for so many - and it was blessed because of the sacrifice people made in coming to pray.

PARISH NOTES

Newsletter

Please ensure items for the newsletter are sent in by Wednesday morning. Thank you.

Clergy Addresses

Fr Paul Seddon

St Richard's Presbytery, Mayfield Street, Atherton, Manchester M46 0AQ

Fr Dave Heywood

Holy Family Presbytery, 208 Chaddock Lane, Boothstown, Worsley, Manchester M28 1DN

Finance

The monies for the five church communities of the Parish of St Margaret Clitherow are now held in one account. So please make all cheques payable to **St Margaret Clitherow** (Please note the spelling of 'Clitherow'). Thank you.

Pastoral Area Website

www.leighpastoralarea.co.uk

Catholic School Websites

www.st-maryshigh.wigan.sch.uk

www.athertonsacredheart.wigan.sch.uk

www.boothstownhollyfamily.wigan.sch.uk

www.saintambrosebarlow.wigan.sch.uk

www.saintgabrielsprimary.co.uk

www.saintrichards.wigan.sch.uk

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Ladies Group

The next meeting of the Ladies Group will take place on Wednesday 6th November at 7.15 pm in St Ambrose Barlow Church Hall. New members always welcome. Please remember to bring along your money for the Christmas meal.

Music Meeting

For all those who help out with music in the liturgy, there will be a gathering of singers and musicians in St. Richard's Parish House on Thursday November 7th. The aim of the meeting is to simply share new ideas with each other. It would be good to gather together more to support each other in this important role. The meeting will begin at 7.30 pm. Please bring instruments and voices!

A 'Do' for Senior Citizens

The Youth SVP would like to invite Senior Citizens to a bit of a 'Do' at Holy Family on Sunday 17th November, 2.30 – 4.30 pm, in the Large Hall. They will be providing some entertainment, singing, a game of bingo, a quiz, sandwiches and cake, tea and coffee, and a glass of sherry as you arrive. We could do with an idea of numbers for catering, so please sign the list at the back of church if you hope to attend.

"With You Always"

Second Meeting for Parents & Children

St Richard's School - Wednesday 13th November at 3.30 pm

Sacred Heart School - Wednesday 13th November at 6.30 pm

St Ambrose Church Hall - Thursday 21st November at 6.00 pm



Parish Visitors

If you are a Eucharistic Minister, member of the SVP or the Bereavement Teams, or undertake some other form of ministry and visit people in their homes, then you are invited to a **Safeguarding Awareness** meeting on **Tuesday 19th November**, 7.00 – 9.00 pm, at Holy Family, Boothstown. The meeting will be led by the Archdiocesan Safeguarding Team and will involve information on elder abuse as well as how to keep yourself safe when carrying out your ministry. This is an important meeting and the priests ask us all to make it a priority. If you are able to attend the meeting, please sign the sheet at the back of church **by the end of October**. Many thanks.

Emmaus Group

The next meeting of the Emmaus Group will take place at St. Richard's on Thursday November 28th at 7.30 pm. **Please note the change of date from last week's newsletter**. The group is mainly to provide on-going support to those who have recently become members of the Church. The meeting normally lasts about an hour. Please come along if you can and bring any questions you may have.

St Joseph's Prayer Centre, Formby

St. Joseph's Prayer Centre are holding two retreats: (1) "The Path To Acceptance", which takes place between 15th-17th November, is a residential weekend retreat exploring how we can heal the wounds of our poor self esteem. (2) "Preparing for Christmas", held between 6th-8th December, will be a retreat helping us to keep Christ at the centre of our Christmas celebrations. For more information or to book a place, please phone 07722 572753 or 01704 879665.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK



This week, Pope Francis met with Prison Chaplains in Italy. In his address, he said: "I thank you and I would like to take advantage of this meeting with you, who work in the prisons of the whole of Italy, to have my greeting reach all those detained. Please tell them that I pray for them, I keep them in my heart, I pray to the Lord and Our Lady that they will be able to

surmount positively this difficult period of their life. That they not be discouraged or close themselves. You know that one day everything goes well, but another day one is down, and that wave is difficult. The Lord is close, but say it with gestures, with words, with the heart that the Lord doesn't stay outside, he does not stay outside of their cell, he does not stay outside of prisons, but inside; he is there.

"You can say this: the Lord is inside with them; he too is a prisoner, again today, prisoner of our egoism's, of our systems, of so many injustices, because it is easy to punish the weakest, but the big fish swim freely in the waters. No cell is so isolated as to exclude the Lord, none. He is there, he weeps with them, works with them, waits with them. His paternal and maternal love reaches everywhere. I pray that each one will open his heart to this love.

"When I received a letter from one of them at Buenos Aires, I visited him, whereas now when those of Buenos Aires write to me again, sometimes I call them, especially on Sunday, I have a chat. Then when I finish I think: why is he there and not I who have so many more reasons to be there? It does me good to think this: because the weaknesses we have are the same, why did he fall and I didn't fall? This is a mystery for me which makes me pray and makes me come close to prisoners."



LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Holy Family	£ 811.84
St Ambrose Barlow	£ 263.18
St Gabriel's	£ 240.15
St Richard's & Sacred Heart	£ 693.12
Total Parish Collection	£2008.29

SECOND COLLECTION

World Mission Sunday

Holy Family	£ 248.69
St Ambrose Barlow	£ 125.73
St Gabriel's	£ 93.43
St Richard's & Sacred Heart	£ 246.12

Thank you so much for your generosity

PARISH MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

WEEK BEGINNING 27th October	HOLY FAMILY	ST AMBROSE BARLOW	ST GABRIEL'S	SACRED HEART & ST RICHARD'S
SUNDAY	9.00 am Ann & Joe Thompson 11.00 am Robin Cliff 12.30 pm Baptisms	11.00 am Ronnie Kenwright	(Sat) 6.00 pm Annie McCabe	(Sat) 6.00 pm Helen Bennett 9.30 am Mary & Edward Gregson Roy Benjamin 6.30 pm Frances Neal
MONDAY			1.30 pm Funeral Service for Thomas Rowson (At St Joseph's)	
TUESDAY		Mass at St Richard's 7.00 pm Prayer Group		9.15 am Josephine Jackson 10.30 am Funeral Service for Mary McDonagh
WEDNESDAY	No Mass today			9.00 - 10.00 am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
THURSDAY <i>All Saints</i>	7.00 pm Brian & Peter McDonald			9.15 am Thomas Mullin
FRIDAY <i>All Saints</i>		7.00 pm Special Intention (Sick Person)	10.00 am Sr Anne Joseph	12.00 noon Stanley Haley
SATURDAY	10.00 am The Faithful Departed		6.00 pm Joan Clegg	6.00 pm Charles Fairclough
NEXT SUNDAY	9.00 am Kevin Freeman 11.00 am Mary & Danny Stockey 12.30 pm Baptisms	11.00 am Robin Cliff		9.30 am Vincent & Anne Harvey 6.30 pm Shaun Pendlebury

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

This Saturday

10.30 - 11.00 am at Holy Family
After 6.00 pm Mass at St Richard's
(or by appointment with one of the priests)



LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

Those who have died, especially:

Norah Josephine Cookson Martin Hession
Mary McDonagh John O'Neill
Connor Donaldson Kathleen Morton
Thomas Rowson

Those who are sick, especially:

Anne Broad Norah Atkinson
Alan West Gillian Best
Joyce Nuttall Lynda Daly
Fred Lyth Mary Hall
Elizabeth Oldershaw Connie Cilly
Rev Jim Melia William Bennett
Thomas Laing Jean Neary

Children who are missing, especially:

Madeleine McCann

SECOND COLLECTION

Today
Next Week

Monthly SVP Collection
LAMP (Liverpool Archdiocesan
Missionary Project)



READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

31st Sunday of Ordinary Time (C)

First Reading

Wisdom 11:22-12:2

God, who created the world out of love, overlooks people's sins so that they can repent and come back to him.

Second Reading

2 Thessalonians 1:11-2:2

Paul urges the people of Thessalonika to be worthy of their call, and assures them that the Second Coming of Christ has not yet taken place.

Gospel Reading

Luke 19:1-10

We hear the story of the conversion of the rich tax collector Zacchaeus.